THE DAY OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT
HAD BEEN A COLD REALITY
CHECK FOR ME.

LUCAS WYKES, WHOSE INSUBORDINATION AND BETRAYAL LED TO THE DEATH OF MOST OF OUR PARTY...

USED HIS FAMILY'S
POWER AND CONNECTIONS
TO WALK FREE FROM
HIS ATROCITIES.

I HAD BEEN WARNED
THAT SEEKING REVENGE
AGAINST LUCAS WOULD BE SUICIDE,
BECAUSE STANDING BEHIND HIM
WAS HIS OLDER BROTHER...

WHO WAS NOT ONLY
A POWERFUL MAGE...

BUT NOW,
A LANCE.

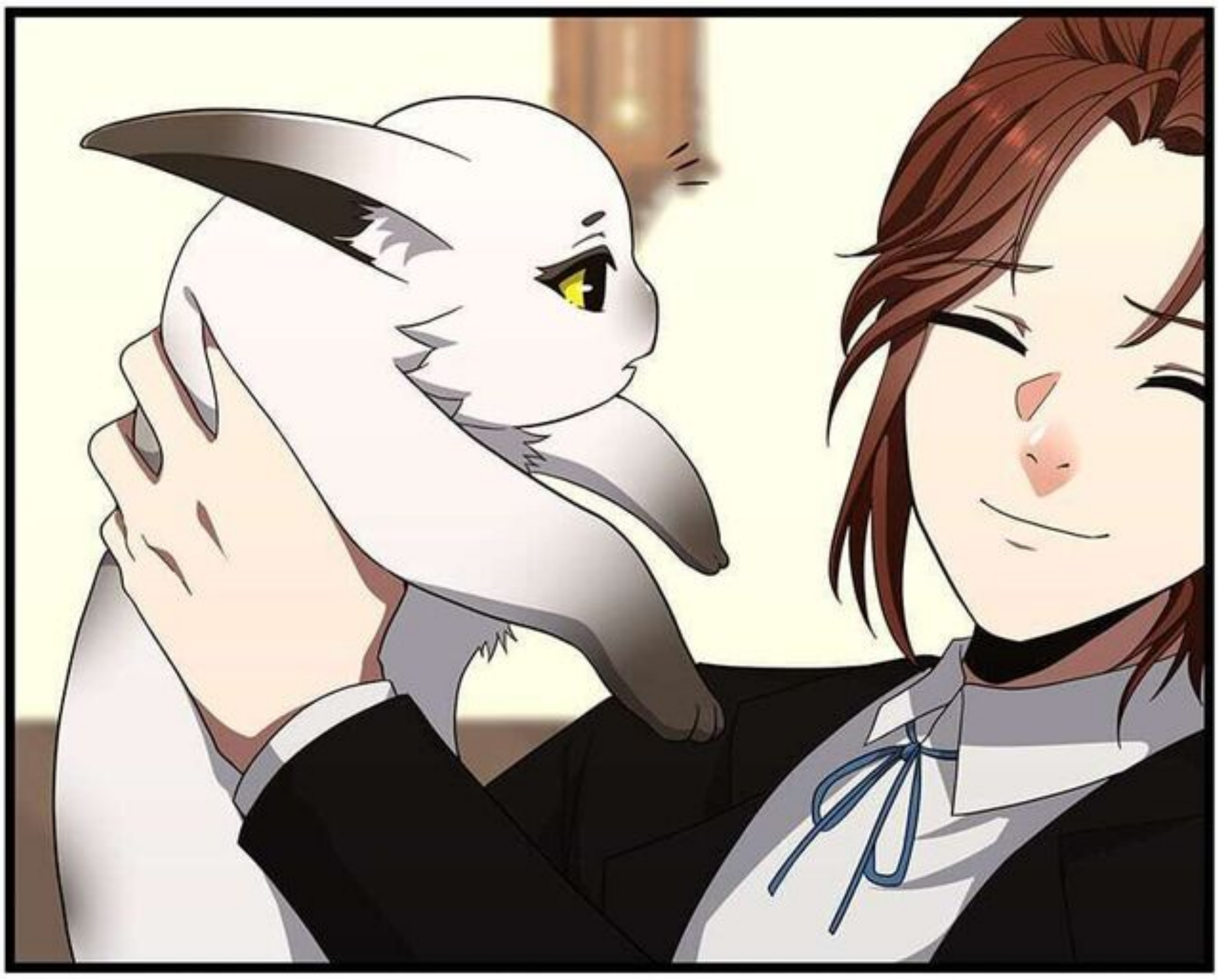
A LITTLE FLASHY FOR MY TASTE, BUT I GUESS IT'LL DO...

WHILE THIS COMPLICATED MY PLANS,
I HAD OTHER, MORE PRESSING
MATTERS TO ATTEND TO.

MY SISTER'S
BIRTHDAY.

WELL, I GUESS
I SHOULD START HEADING
DOWN THEN.

LET'S GO!



YOU SHOULD STAY IN THE ROOM FOR THE NIGHT, SYLV.

VINCENT WARNED ME THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME GUESTS ATTENDING ELLIE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY AS A PRETENSE TO WATCH ME.

I DON'T WANT TO TAKE ANY CHANCES.

BUT DON'T WORRY,
I'LL BE SURE TO HAVE
SOMEONE BRING BACK
LOTS OF FOOD.

PROMISE?

PROMISE.
KYUU!

THE BEGINNING AFTER THE END

STORY BY
TURTLEME

ART BY
FUYUKI23

PRESENTED BY
TAPAS MEDIA

QUALITY CONTROL BY

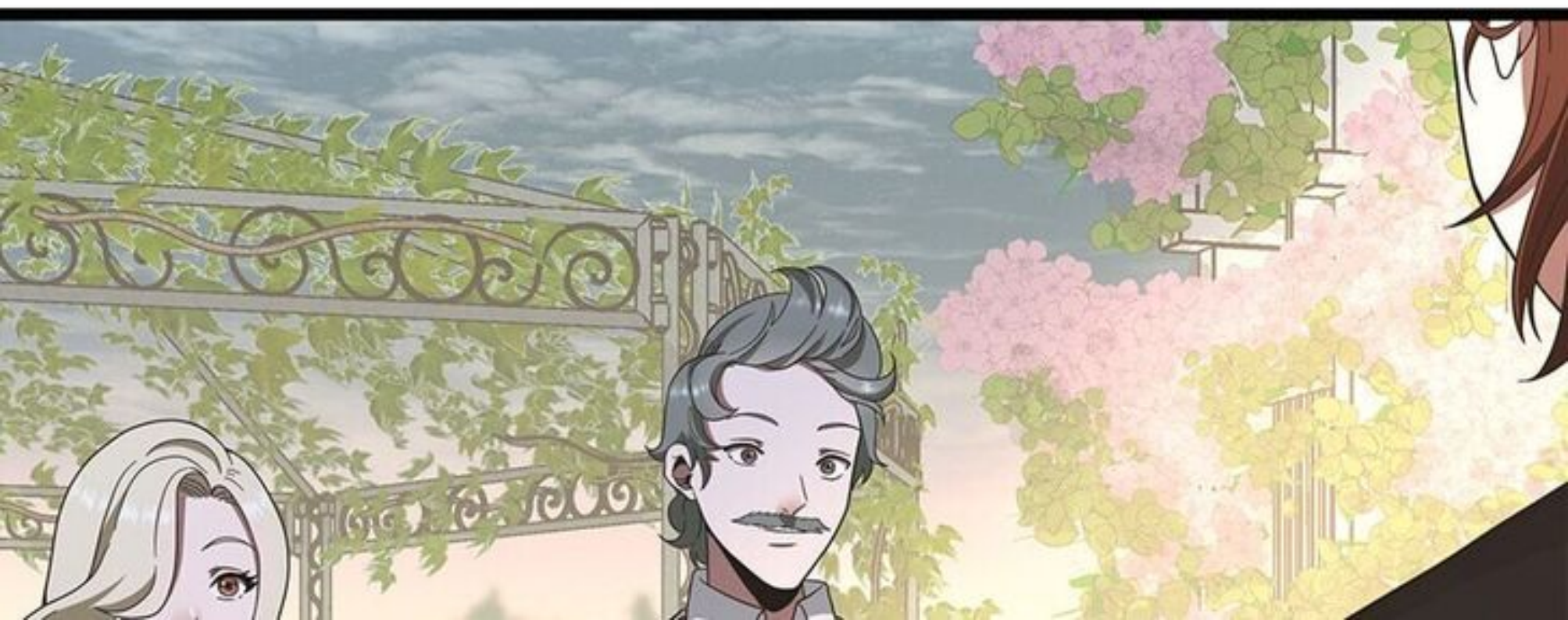
KISAI ENTERTAINMENT

MAIN ASSISTANTS/ALKALENZ
STORYBOARD ASSISTANT/PUTRI
COLORING ASSISTANTS/CHIBONIIE & YUEJI
LINING ASSISTANT/MIKAGE

PROJECT MANAGER
SERA SWATI

EDITORS
GABRIELLE LUU & AKY

WELCOME!



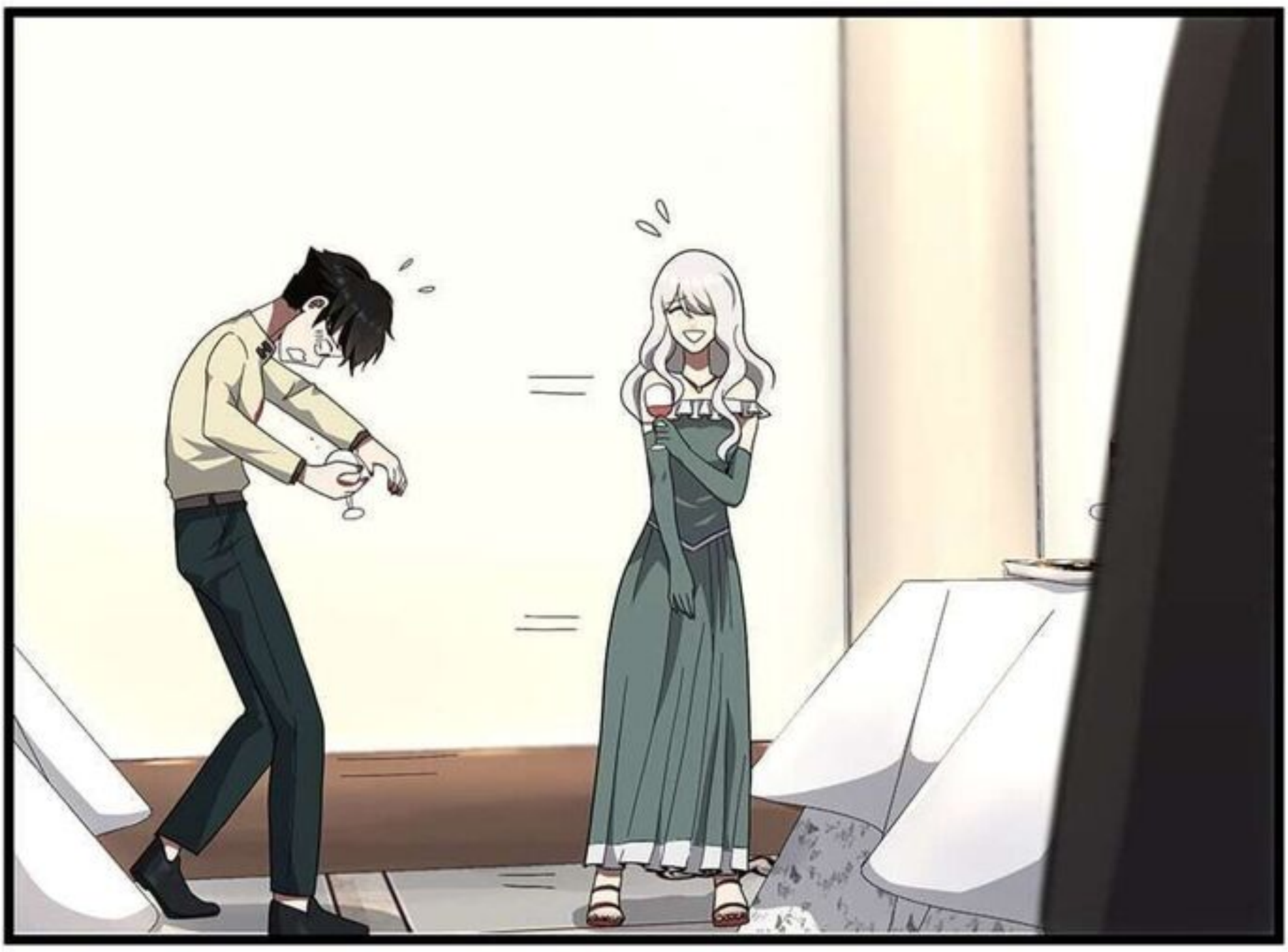
PLEASE
COME IN.

BE SURE TO ASK THAT BOY FOR A DANCE LATER!

MOTHER!

YEAH,
I'M ATTENDING
XYRUS ACADEMY
SOON.

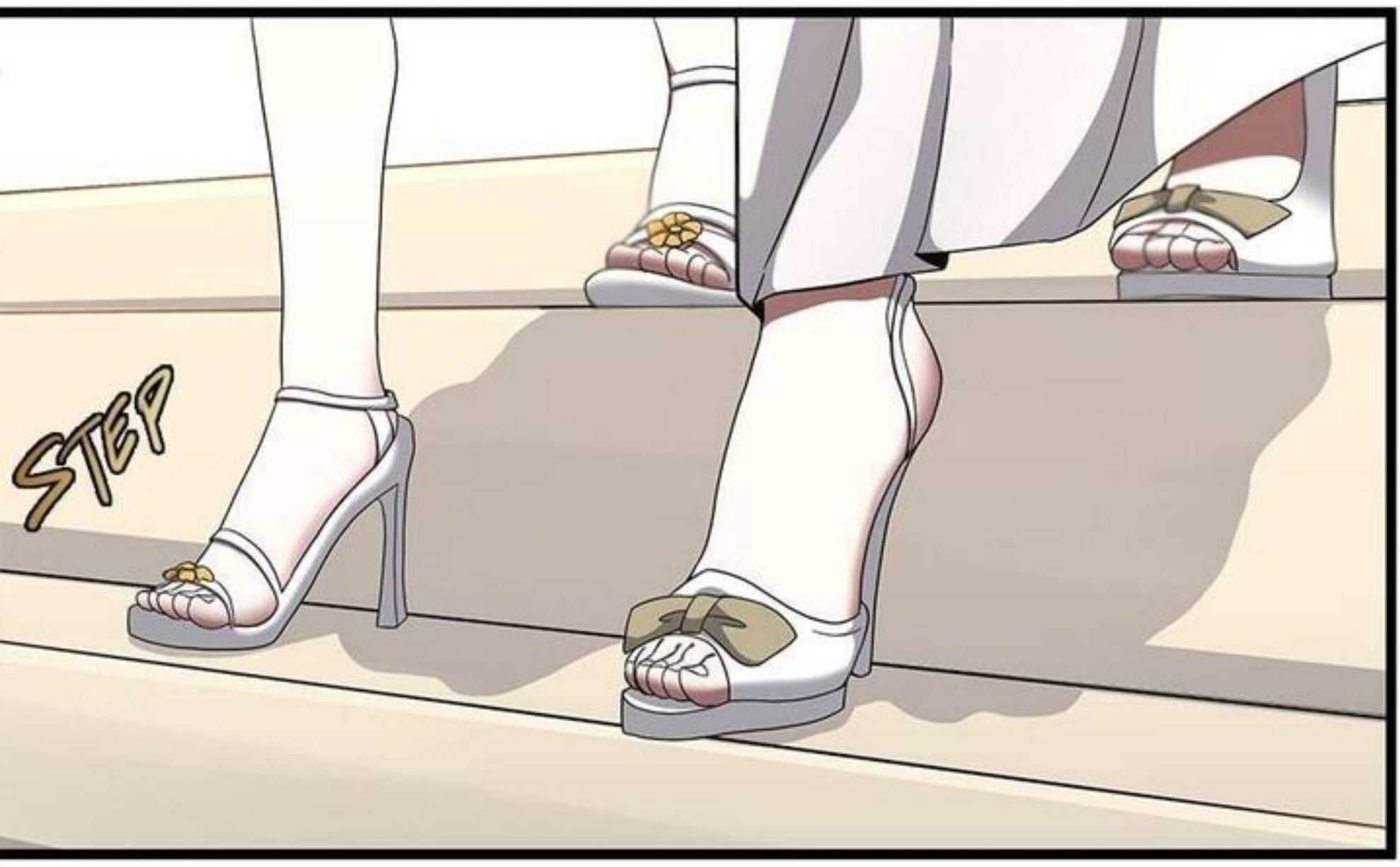
MAYBE WE CAN GRAB SOME LUNCH TOG--



DON'T ACT LIKE YOU DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING!

THEY'RE COMING!

EVERYONE, GET READY!


STEP

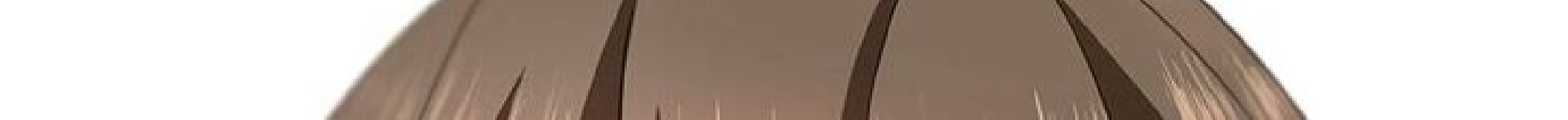
I THOUGHT WE WERE JUST HAVING A FAMILY PARTY!

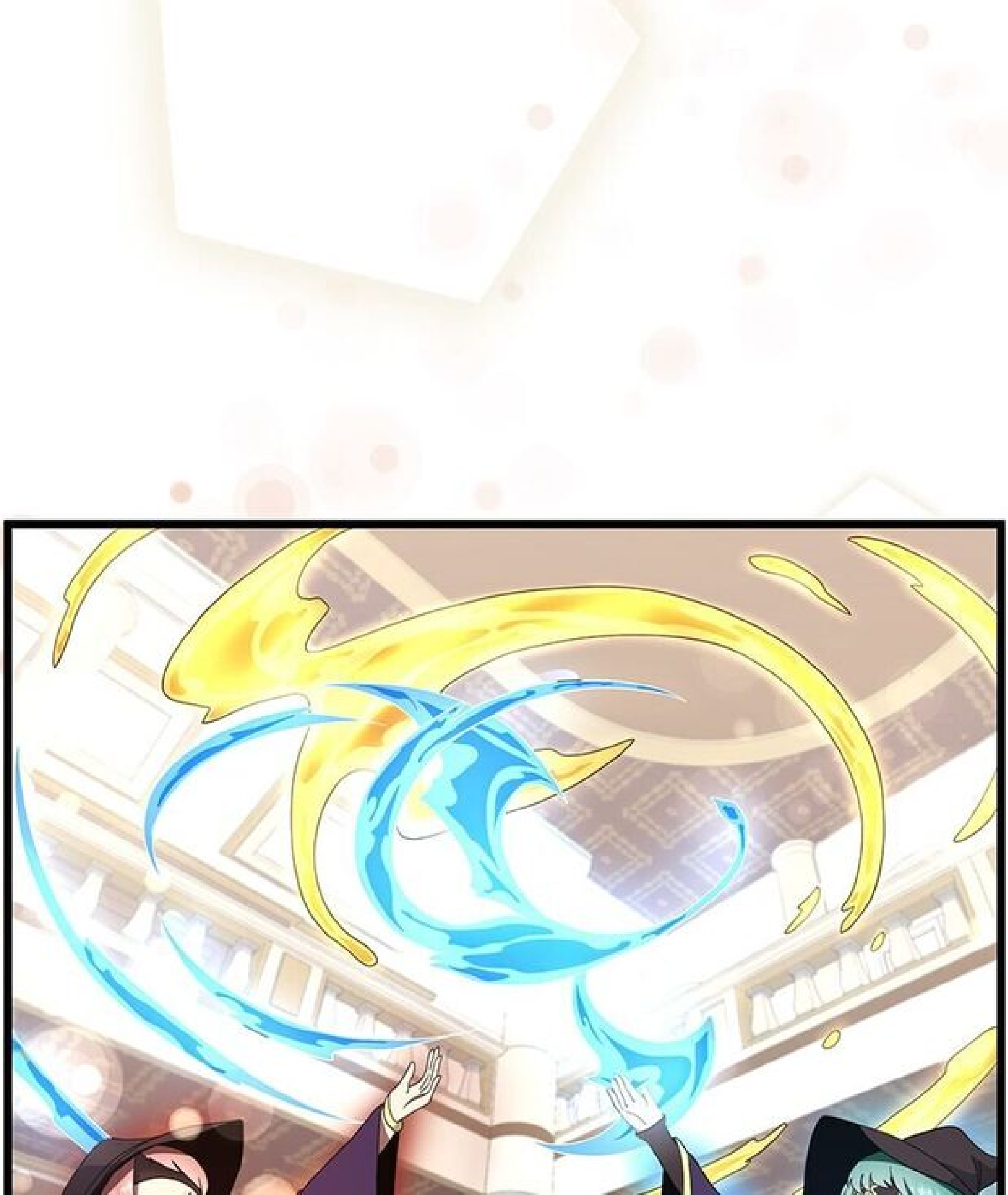
WHY DO I NEED TO WEAR THIS UNCOMFORTABLE DRESS?

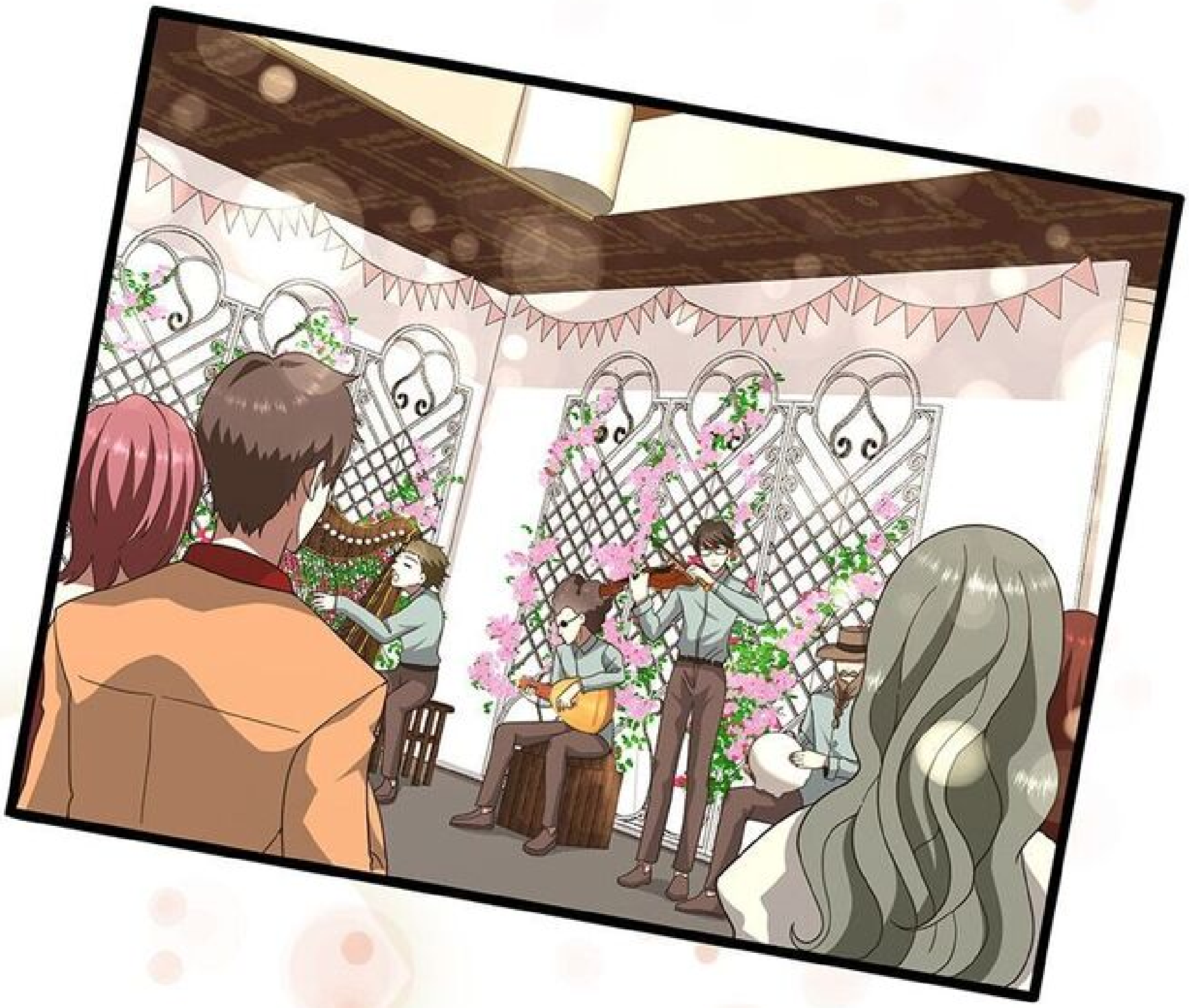
SLOWLY~

THIS IS WHY!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY,
ELEANOR!







CLINK CLINK

BEFORE THE NEXT PORTION OF THE PARTY BEGINS,

I WOULD LIKE
TO THANK EVERYONE
HERE,

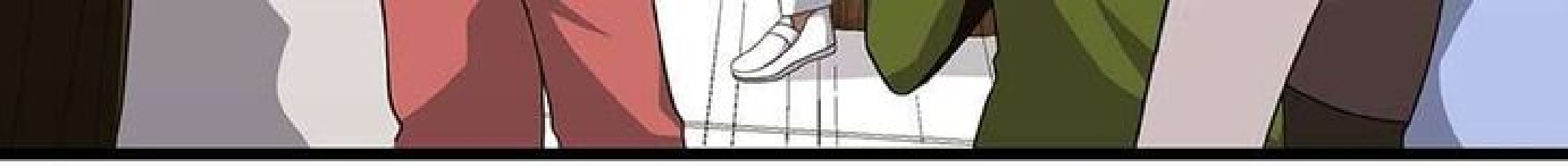
ON BEHALF OF
MY PRECIOUS
DAUGHTER,

FOR COMING
TO CELEBRATE
HER BIRTHDAY!

I'VE BEEN
BLESSED WITH

SO MUCH IN
THIS LIFE.

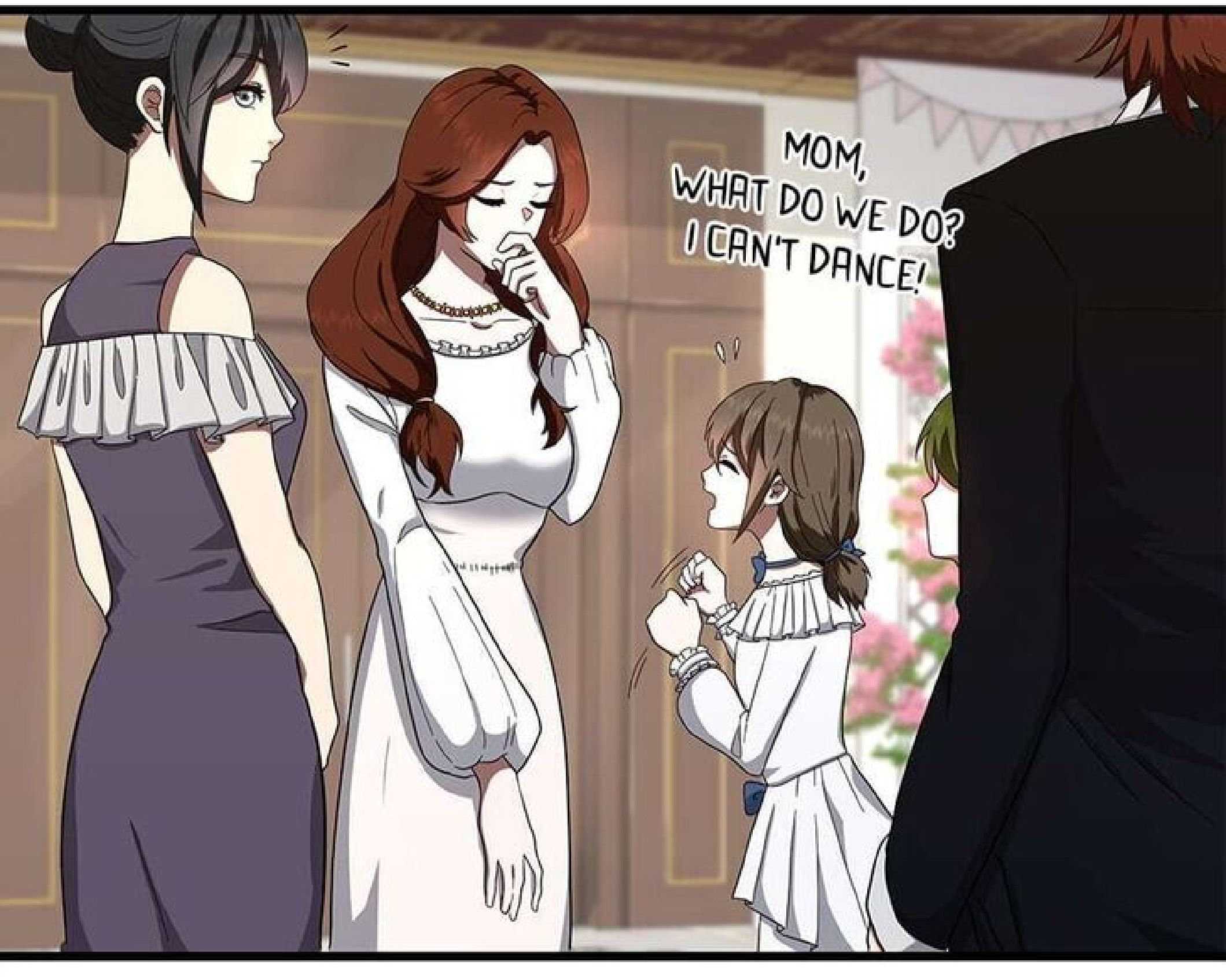
BUT THERE WOULD BE
NO GREATER JOY THAN
TO HAVE MY BELOVED SON
AND DAUGHTER PARTAKE
IN THE FIRST DANCE!



I DIDN'T KNOW ELLIE AND ART WERE SUPPOSED TO DANCE. DID THEY PRACTICE AT ALL...?

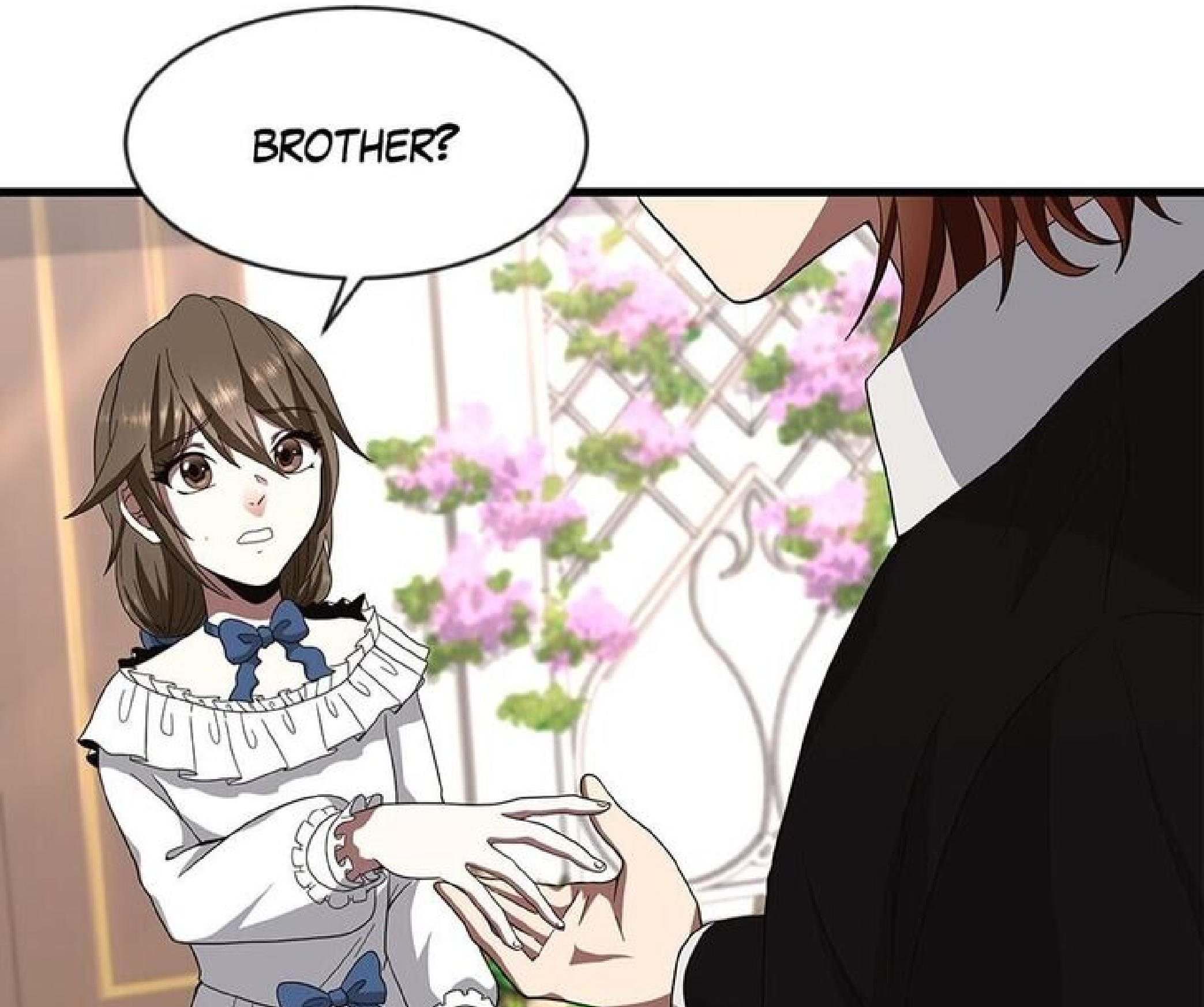
I'LL KILL HIM.

NOT. AT. ALL.


MOM,
WHAT DO WE DO?
I CAN'T DANCE!

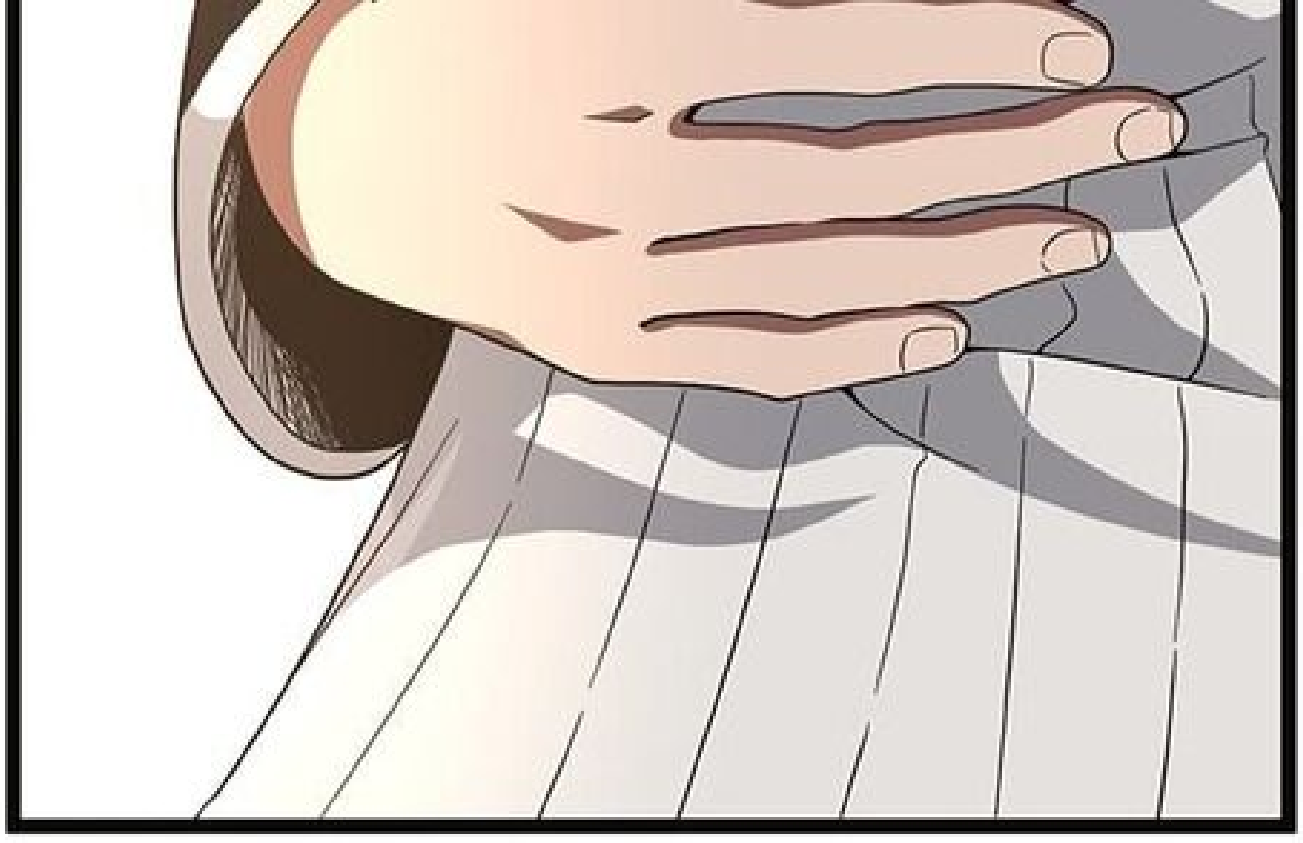
ELEANOR.

WILL YOU HONOR
ME WITH YOUR HAND
FOR A DANCE?


BROTHER?
B-BUT...

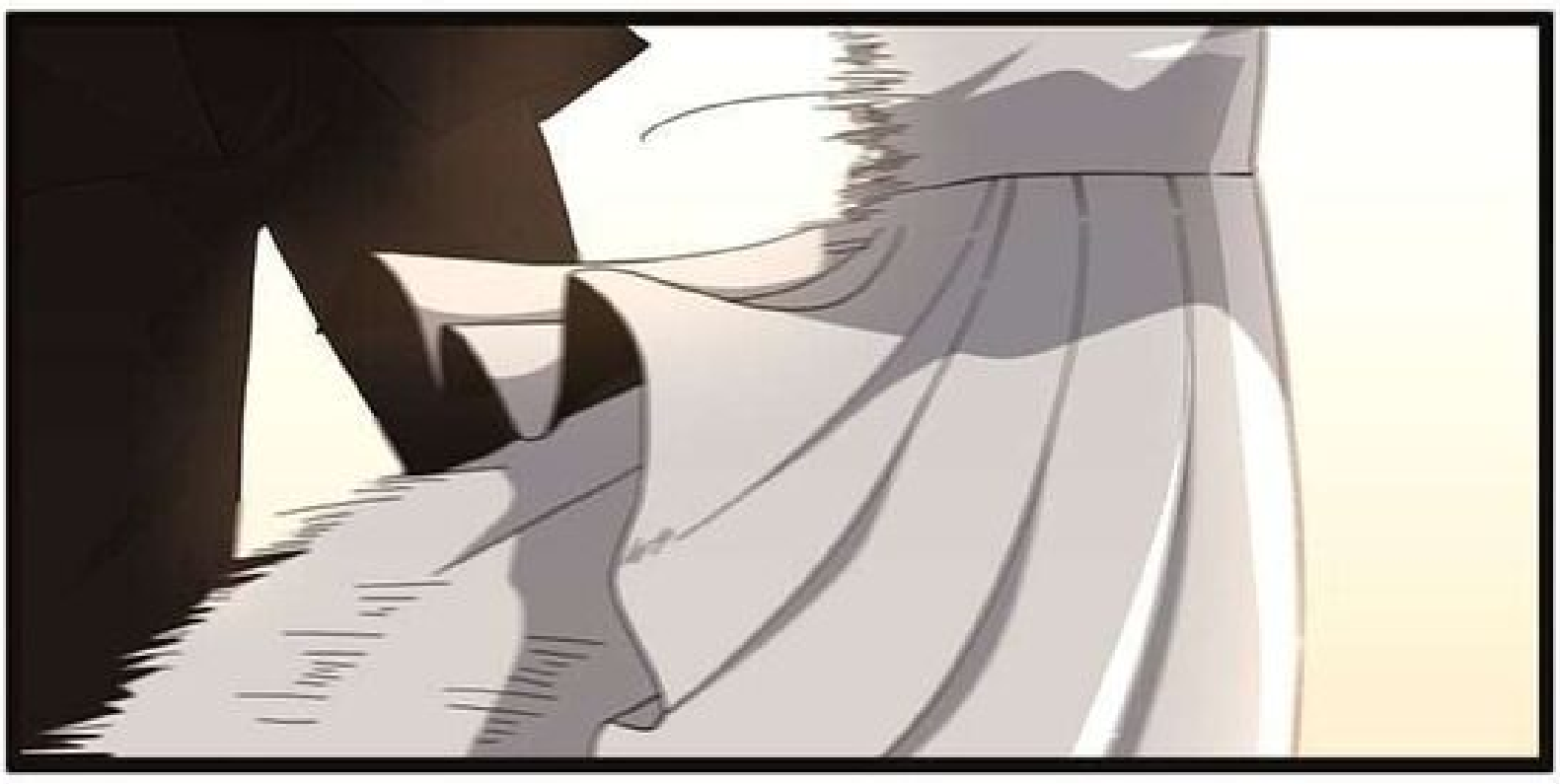
NOD

CUE THE MUSIC!

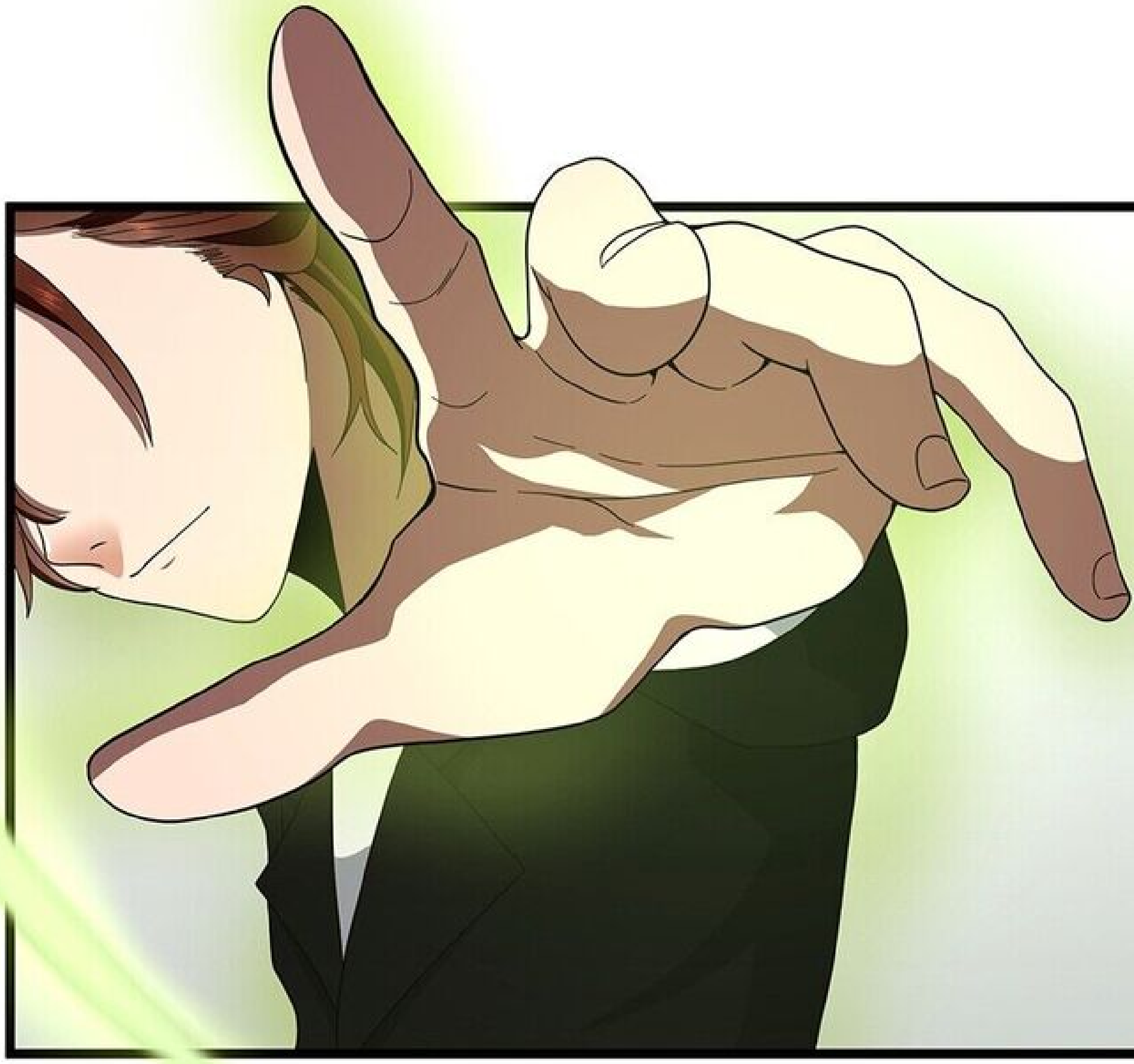


I THOUGHT THEY DIDN'T PRACTICE.

TH-THEY DIDN'T...



ROLL



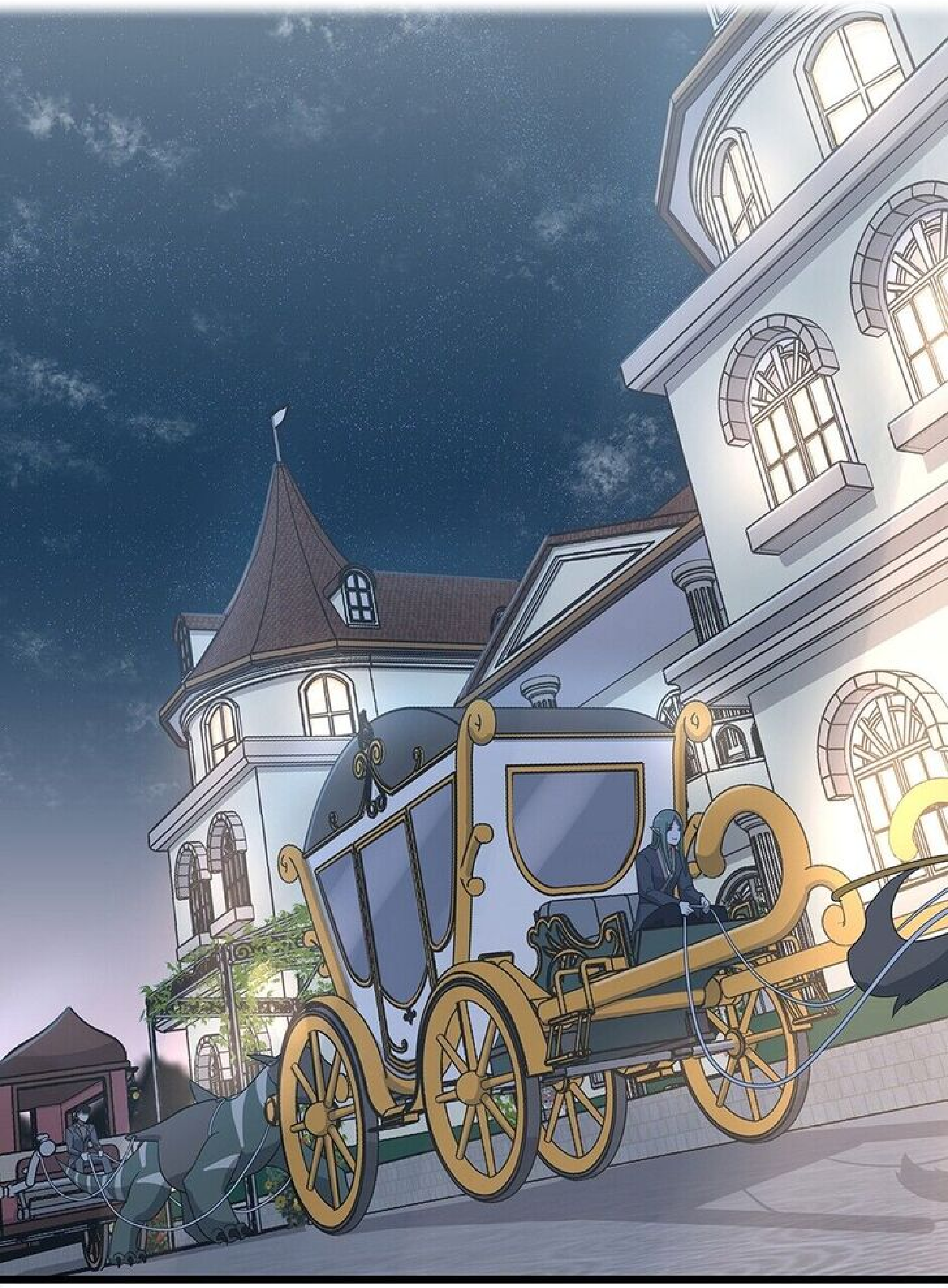
APPLAUSE

I GUESS THOSE

BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS
IN MY PREVIOUS LIFE
DO HAVE THEIR
USES AFTER ALL.

WHAT A DISGUSTINGLY BEAUTIFUL PERFORMANCE...

MIND IF
WE TALK?



I WAS TOLD
THAT YOU WERE QUITE
CLOSE WITH ARTHUR
LEYWIN.

IS IT ALRIGHT
FOR US TO JUST LEAVE
AFTER DROPPING OFF
A PRESENT FOR

HIS SISTER?

ARTHUR'S FOCUS SHOULD BE ON HIS SISTER TODAY.

BESIDES...

I'LL SEE HIM AT SCHOOL SOON.